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THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

FURNISHING THE KITCHEN.

BY AGNES B. ORMSBEE.



HE novice is apt to think that the needs of the kitchen are trifling, and that purchases for it can be placed, like itself, quite in the rear of all else. But the truth is that the kitchen table is even more necessary than a drawing-room table, and that kitchen furnishings are really formidable rivals in expense to those in "the front room."

All kitchen utensils and furniture should be carefully bought, for they are the tools by which the health of the household is

the house, or such as the better apartments. Such ranges are set into the chimney; hence the name "brick-set," and they cost from \$18 to \$75, according to size and quality. The price includes the pipes and all the connections with the tall cylindrical copper hot-water boiler that stands in the chimney-corner. The best ranges come from Troy, though Philadelphia ranges are cheaper. But those ranges in which the hot-water boiler is set above the range, in place of the oven, and the oven itself placed below the fire-box, are poor ones, and do not give good service. They are used by builders in cities, as they lessen the plumber's bill, which the copper boiler and its pipes help to swell.

Next to the "brick-set" is the "portable" range, looking like the cooking stove of twenty years ago, but fitted with all the modern appliances for saving both heat and fuel. These ranges are supplied with two grates, so that either coal or wood may be burned. All portable ranges can have the pipes called "water front," of a boiler connected with them, and the larger ranges have the less modern reservoir attached to them to use where the water supply does not have sufficient force to fill

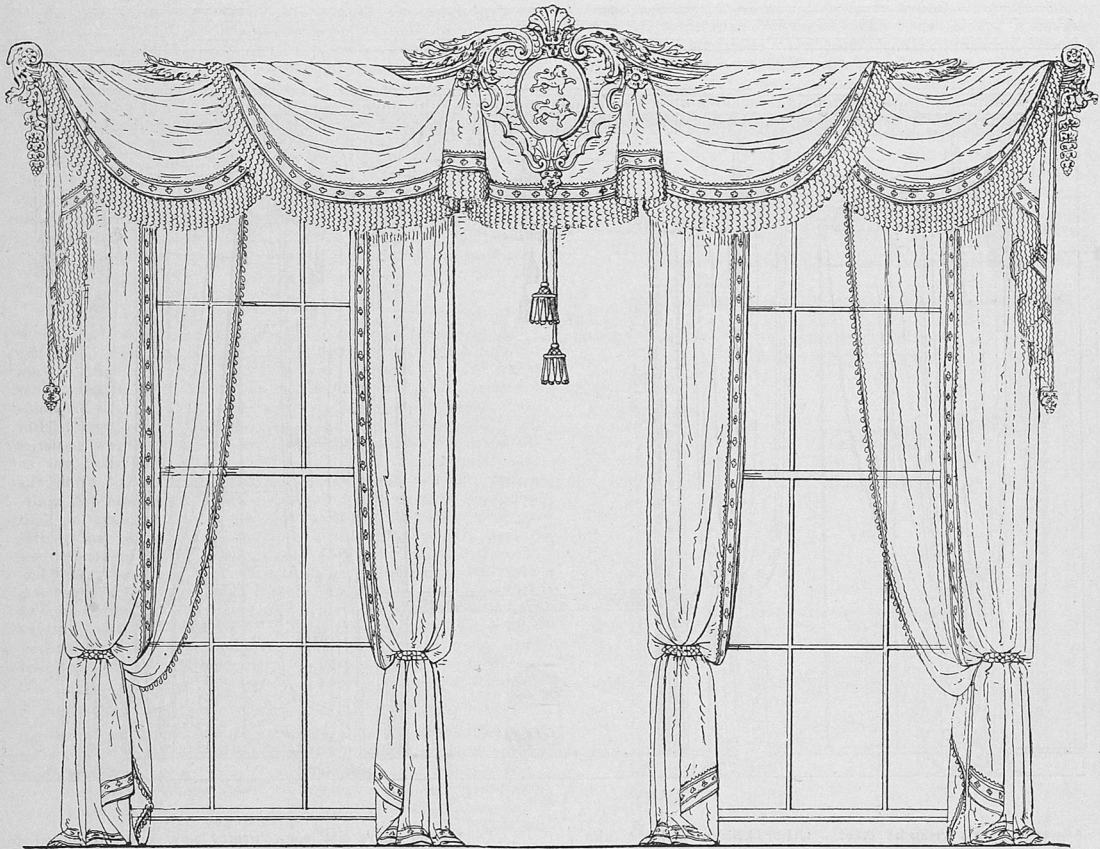


Fig. 8.

wrought. Health-giving food and clean apparel come from within the kitchen walls, and whatever cripples its efforts to provide these is lamentable, and should have no place in the house comfortable. Scanty, poor utensils affect the variety, quality and palatableness of food, and unnecessarily wear out the worker's strength and temper. This needless waste of strength, even in a servant, is poor economy, and in the kitchen the builder of a home should relax her desire to save, and freely and cheerfully provide all that her practical sense of family comfort shows to be needed.

The kitchen stove or range is the first thing to be bought. This is a large expenditure, but not to be avoided, unless the homemaker lives in a large city. There the range is built into

a boiler. These ranges cost from \$6 to \$50, and the cost of the hot water connection is included in the higher prices. The \$6 range is a tiny affair for light-housekeeping, with two griddle holes and a wee oven, but does good work in miniature. Thirty dollars will buy a range of full size, and capable of doing all required for a large family. The high-priced ranges are more ornamental in casting, elaborately trimmed with nickel, but have no actual improvements beyond those in ranges of modest price.

The next purchases are those which may be called kitchen furniture. One large table is needed; and a small one, three feet long and on casters, is useful for rolling about the room to save steps. These, two chairs, an alarm clock, a lamp, a large

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pail, preferably one of paper that will not shrink, and one or two good brooms will take \$7, which is a small outlay. If the small table is covered with zinc, it will be serviceable to set hot dishes on, and will cost \$2 extra. Ten dollars will buy a marble-topped table mounted on pine, which is useful for pastry-making, especially in summer.

Every reliable cook-book has a list of utensils needed for kitchen and pantry uses, and these, together with the list given in Vol. XX to *Bazar* readers in "House-keeping Made Easy," by Christine Terhune Herriek, make it unnecessary to repeat such a tabulation. Not one of the utensils of this list is unnecessary or extravagant in quality for the comfortable, strength conserving doing of domestic cookery, and yet they give a total of \$32—the actual cost determined by careful pricing of each article. The itemized list stands: Tins, \$10; woodenware, \$5; ironware, including household scales, \$6; earthenware, \$4; agateware kettles, \$3; cutlery, \$3; japanned boxes for bread, cake and spices, \$1.

There is never any economy in buying even kitchen knives

is \$3 more respectively. Another style of the same is made in hardwood, with some ornamentation, and is designed for flats and apartments, where space must be closely utilized. These "flat" refrigerators are tall and narrow, but have all the economic and hygienic features of the ordinary ones, and, with finer woodwork, are an admissible part of dining-room furnishings, whenever it is desirable. They cost respectively \$13, \$17 and \$20, according to capacity.

The necessary kitchen furnishings having been discussed and their cost practically averaged, let us see how much money has been spent: Cooking utensils, \$32; kitchen furniture, \$7; laundry utensils, \$13; refrigerator, \$10—total \$62. If a range must be bought it will add \$30 more. Each home should have its individual and special likes and needs. These will be felt more or less in the kitchen purchases, causing some things to be bought which no list of needs can dictate. If the home-maker furnishes her kitchen, including range, for \$100, she may rest satisfied that it is in reality a small sum, spent to the best advantage for her home's welfare.—*Harper's Bazar*.

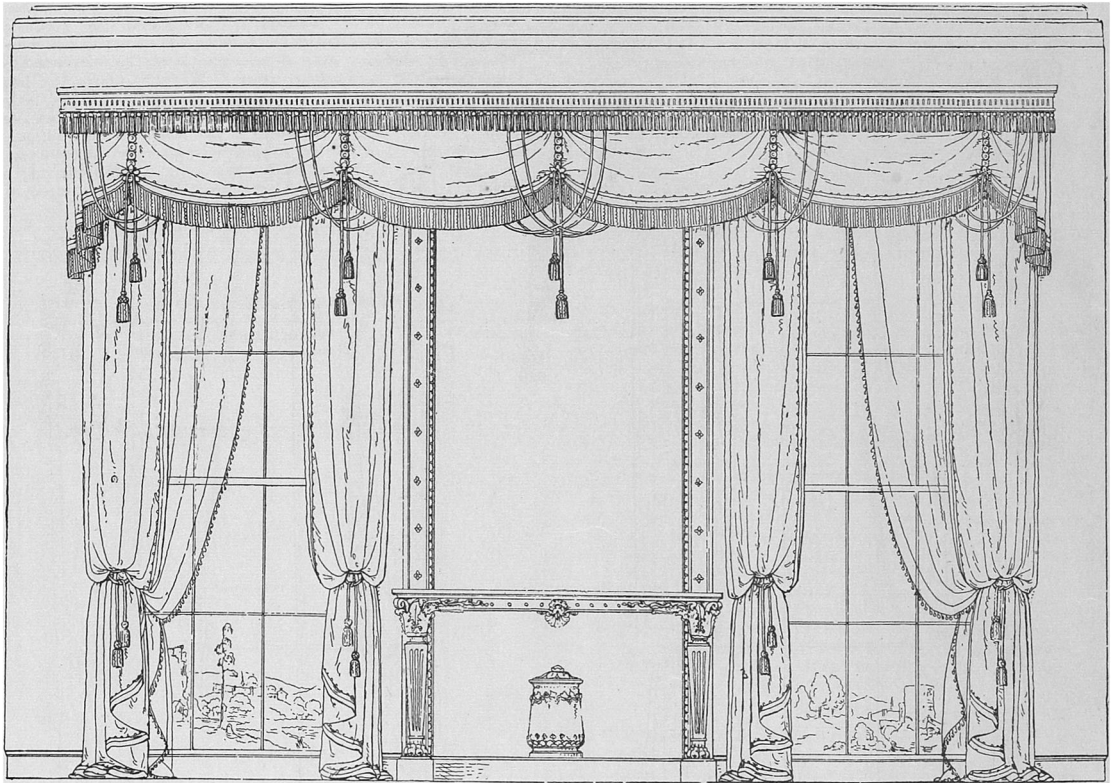


Fig. 9.

of anything but wrought steel. Other knives will not take a good edge or stay sharp more than over night. Regular cooks' knives, such as are used by professional *chefs*, would be a great help to the ordinary housewife. Such small knives cost \$1.25, and larger ones more than that. Agate-ware would be better than so much tinware. It is light, durable, and easily cleaned, but costs about twice as much. But with ordinary usage it will last a long time, not rusting or cracking, while food will not burn as quickly in cooking.

The finest and most satisfactory refrigerator is zinc lined, and packed with charcoal—the best non-conductor of heat for such uses. Its waste-pipe is double-syphoned, and has a movable elbow in the center, so that the pipe can be easily cleaned. Its shelves are of galvanized iron, and its two divisions open by doors in front—one above the other. The divisions are connected by six passages to make the air circulation as perfect as possible. This kind in medium size is \$10.50. Each larger size

IN menus there are some pretty new ones, intended for flower, suppers and dinners. A single rose, the stalk apparently passed through a slit in the card, exquisitely tinted; a few pansies tied together with the Empire bow; smaller flowers scattered over a tinted surface are among the designs. There are sets of three floral designs, such as daisies, violets and prim-roses thrown along the top and cut out.

A PRETTY pin cushion of flowered white satin is of a large square shape. It is furnished with two full pockets for holding trinkets or buttons, and on the other sides are laid, in half handkerchief shape, folds of white velvet, through which are run the button-hook, scissors, or any little article needed for the toilet.

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER costs only \$4 per year.